

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Title on page 1, lines 2-3 as follows:

STRUCTURED DATA RETRIEVAL APPARATUS, METHOD, AND PROGRAM FOR
RETRIEVING STRUCTURED DATA HAVING A HIERARCHICAL DATA
STRUCTURE

Please replace the paragraphs at page 4, line 2 through page 6, line 14 with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to one aspect of the present invention, there is provided a data retrieval method including storing in a first memory a plurality of information data items, each including one or more elements, each of which has an element name and an element value; estimating a category of the element value of the each of the elements to obtain a label corresponding to the category; storing a plurality of data items in a second memory, each of the data items including the element name of a respective of the elements and the label corresponding to the category of an element value of the respective element; inputting a search request including a keyword and a label; retrieving one of the data items which includes the label included in the search request to obtain the element name included in the one of the data items; retrieving one of the information data items which includes a first element whose element name is equal to the element name included in the one of the data items and a second element whose element value includes the keyword; and outputting the element value of the first element.

According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a data retrieval method including storing in a first memory a plurality of information data items, each

estimating a category of the element value of the each of the elements to obtain a label corresponding to the category; storing in a second memory a plurality of data items, each including the element name of the respective element and the label corresponding to the category of the element value of the respective element; storing a plurality of words and a plurality of labels corresponding to the words, respectively, in a third memory; inputting a search request expressed in a natural-language and including a plurality of words; retrieving from the third memory one of the labels which corresponds to one of the words included in the search request; extracting another of the words included in the search request as a keyword; retrieving one of the data items which includes the one of the labels to obtain the element name included in the one of the data items; retrieving one of the information data items which includes a first element whose element name is equal to the element name included in the one of the data items and a second element whose element value includes the keyword; and outputting the element value of the first element.